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1 — INVESTIGATIONS INTO ARKEMA PLANT FIRES UNDERWAY AFTER HARVEY, Texas Standard, 9/25/17

<http://www.texasstandard.org/stories/categories/energy-environment/>

Environmental regulators are looking into fires that broke out at a Houston-area chemical plant after Harvey. It's been about a month since the storm, but people near the flooded Arkema, Inc. plant are still under a health advisory.

Those residents east of Houston were among those hit particularly bad by the storm. Not only were they flooded: they found themselves inside the danger zone put in place after the plant caught fire.

2 — HOW MILITARY OUTSOURCING TURNED TOXIC, ProPublica, 9/25/17

<https://features.propublica.org/military-pollution/military-pollution-contractors-scandal-toxic-cleanups/>

IN AUGUST 2016, an inspector from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency arrived at Barksdale Air Force base in Louisiana, a nerve center for the U.S. military's global air combat operations, to conduct a routine look at the base's handling of its hazardous waste. Barksdale, like many military bases, generates large volumes of hazardous materials, including thousands of pounds of toxic powder left over from cleaning, painting and maintaining airplanes.

3 City, state officials spar over funding Harvey recovery efforts at Houston meeting, Texas Tribune, 9/25/17

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/09/25/city-and-state-officials-spar-over-funding-harvey-recovery-efforts/>

While several Texas officials have thrown support behind some expensive flood control projects, a Houston City Council meeting Monday highlighted the political and financial hurdles that may await such efforts.

4 — Team to examine how agency 'engages with industry', Greenwire, 9/25/17

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/09/25/stories/1060061583>

U.S. EPA announced the formation of a Smart Sectors team as part of a planned restructuring for its policy office.

The Smart Sectors team within the Office of Policy is set to "re-examine how EPA engages with industry," according to a Federal Register notice posted Friday. The goal of the team is to "reduce unnecessary regulatory burden, create certainty and predictability, and improve the ability of both EPA and industry to conduct long-term regulatory planning while also protecting the environment and public health," according to the notice.

5 — EPA sends ozone implementation rule to White House, Greenwire, 9/25/17

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/09/25/stories/1060061605>

With U.S. EPA nearing a key compliance deadline for its 2015 ground-level ozone standard, the agency has sent a related regulation to the White House Office of Management and Budget for review, according to the Reginfo.gov site. The site describes the regulation as both a "proposed rule" and a "final action" that will "establish the air quality thresholds that define the classifications assigned to all nonattainment areas" for the 2015 standard.

6 — Multiple challenges remain to Fukushima nuclear cleanup, Houston Chron, 9/26/17

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/science/article/Multiple-challenges-remain-to-Fukushima->

[nuclear-12228664.php](#)

Japan's government approved a revised road map Tuesday to clean up the radioactive mess left at the Fukushima nuclear power plant after it was damaged beyond repair by an earthquake and tsunami in 2011. Decommissioning the damaged reactors is an uncertain process that is expected to take 30 to 40 years.

7 OPINION: Infrastructure can't wait, Post and Courier, 9/26/17

http://www.postandcourier.com/opinion/commentary/infrastructure-can-t-wait/article_afaa6598-a221-11e7-8fab-1b777af93db4.html

We are at the height of hurricane season as South Carolinians well know. After Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, the United States must not only help our sisters and brothers in Texas and Florida, but as a nation, become better prepared for future natural disasters. That means preventing the many factors that have contributed to certain storm intensity of hurricanes and regional flooding, plus mitigating the impacts from climate change, rising seas, and several decades of unchecked urban sprawl leading to a host of environmental, economic, and social concerns. That also means investing in and strengthening America's infrastructure.

8 Planner chosen for Isle de Jean Charles resettlement site, Times Picayune, 9/26/17

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/09/planner_chosen_for_isle_de_jea.html

A Baton Rouge firm has been selected for the unique task of designing a community to replace one that's sinking under the sea. Louisiana's Office of Community Development hired architecture and engineering firm CSRS Inc. to develop plans for the resettlement of Isle de Jean Charles, a small island in Terrebonne Parish that gets smaller every year.

9 West Tulsa chemical spill unlikely to affect humans or wildlife, Fox 23, 9/25/17

<http://www.fox23.com/news/west-tulsa-chemical-spill-unlikely-to-affect-humans-or-wildlife/614519870>

AZZ Galvanizing reported a chemical spill Monday morning. The west Tulsa company reported a leak of sodium hydroxide, or lye, around 9 a.m. The leak reportedly started around 3 a.m. when a 14,000 gallon tank of the sodium hydroxide was overfilled.

10 Water loss accountability improved, treatment plants receive repairs, Paris Express, 9/26/17

<http://www.paris-express.com/news/20170926/water-loss-accountability-improved-treatment-plants-receive-repairs>

At the Sept. 21 meeting of the Hot Springs Village public works/public utilities meeting director Jason Temple informed members of some good news. Thanks to the leadership of chief water plant operator Chris Boutzale, public utility staff discovered a 6-inch water main located after the main meter for water entering the water distribution system that was previously unknown and recirculating back to the water plant's main water meter to read 4.4 percent (3,456,000 gallons) more finished water per month than was actually being delivered to the distribution system.

11 Might dicamba be affecting pollinators?, Delta Farm Express, 9/26/17

<http://www.deltafarmexpress.com/soybeans/might-dicamba-be-affecting-pollinators>

Since Xtend crops have been planted in the Mid-South, the focus of off-target damage from dicamba has largely been on soybeans. But what about some of the damage to more peripheral, but no less vital, players in the agricultural chain? Before getting to that, it's important to know that Richard Coy isn't a man afraid to take a stand for his farming partners.

12 CROP DAMAGE UNACCEPTABLE, SAYS SOY GROUP SEEKING PATH FORWARD ON DICAMBA, Ag.com, 9/26/17

<http://www.agriculture.com/news/crops/crop-damage-unacceptable-says-soy-group-seeking-path->

[forward-on-dicamba](#)

The dicamba “issue” — widespread reports of crop damage from using the weedkiller — “isn’t going away. In fact, it’s only getting worse,” said Ron Moore, the American Soybean Association president and an Illinois farmer. “We are committed to establishing both a cause and a path forward ... including what actions need to be taken to assure that soybean farmers can use the product safely without damaging their own or their neighbors’ crops.”

13 Work on catch basins hits major snag, La. Weekly, 9/25/17

<http://www.louisianaweekly.com/work-on-catch-basins-hits-major-snag/>

As the City of New Orleans continues to get its pumps working to full capacity, repair all of its turbines that fuel the pumps and clear out the city’s catch basins during the peak of the Atlantic hurricane season, efforts to ensure that all of the catch basins are clear of debris and working properly have hit a major snag, WWL News reported last week. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality told a local contractor to stop clearing debris from catch basins and drain lines, raising concerns about where the contractor, RAMJ Construction LLC, was dumping the debris its vacuum trucks pulled out of the city’s drainage system.

14 Pruitt plans to release schedule, Greenwire, 9/22/17

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/09/22/stories/1060061477>

U.S. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is planning to release his public calendar, long sought by his critics on Capitol Hill and in the environmental movement. Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.), ranking member on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, offered faint praise for the move by Pruitt. Earlier this year, the Democratic senator had called on the EPA chief to release his schedule on a monthly basis (E&E News PM, March 17).

15 NMED Confirms Lifting 'Boil Water Advisory' For Artesia Municipal System, Morningside Users Coop, Los Alamos Daily Post, 9/26/17

<http://www.ladailypost.com/content/nmed-confirms-lifting-boil-water-advisory-artesia-municipal-system-morningside-users-coop>

The New Mexico Environment Department’s (NMED) Drinking Water Bureau is confirming that the Artesia Municipal Water System has met the requirements to lift the “boil water advisory” for the Artesia Municipal Water System and Morningside Water Users Cooperative located in Eddy County. Artesia Municipal Water System and Morningside Water Users Cooperative were required to issue the advisory Sept. 16, 2017 after bacteriological contamination that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for E. coli was discovered in drinking water at the Artesia water system. The advisory only applied to customers served by the Artesia Municipal Water System and Morningside Water Users Cooperative and did not extend to any of the other surrounding water systems or communities.

16 Water loss accountability improved, treatment plants receive repairs, Paris Express, 9/26/17

<http://www.paris-express.com/news/20170926/water-loss-accountability-improved-treatment-plants-receive-repairs>

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